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of Melur taluk on the 28th February 1928, to investigate a pick-pocketting case, that the village munsif of Urilipatti who was specifically prevented from taking part in the activities of the Sangam by a general circular of the District Collector, Madura, attended it and that the village munsif of Nattam reported the fact to the authorities concerned;

(b) what action was taken by the Police to put an end to the activities of the Sangam; and

(c) if the Government have no information whether they will call for the same and place it on the Council table?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to clause (b) of question No. 1384.

(c) Does not arise.

Civil Justice

Alleged punishment on the women fruit-sellers ordered by Mr. K. Padmanabhulu Nayudu, Honorary Magistrate.

*1386 Q.—Dr. B. S. Mallayya: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether one Mr. K. Padmanabhulu Nayudu is an honorary magistrate for the City of Madras;

(b) what his qualifications are and which of those qualifications made the Government select him as a fit person to try cases singly;

(c) what his service record is in Kurnool;

(d) whether the following women fruit-sellers of Esplanade were fined Rs. 10 each on Saturday, 24th November 1928, by the said honorary magistrate: Thimmakka, Periya Miniyamma, Chinna Miniyamma, Andalamma, Latchmi Amma, Thayi Amma, Nagaratnam Ayya, Rajamma;

(e) what the offence was for which they were fined;

(f) whether it is a fact that these women were not allowed to stir out of the court-house before the fines were paid;

(g) what the alternative sentence was in each of these cases; and

(h) whether they were not prevented from committing the offence with which they were charged by the policemen on duty?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) He is a retired Huzur Sarishtadar. He is also a graduate. The Chief Presidency Magistrate on whose recommendation the Government usually act in such cases was of opinion that the gentleman was competent to dispose of cases singly.

(c) to (h) The Government have no information.

Village Courts Act

Execution of decrees of village panchayat courts.

*1387 Q.—Mr. D. Narayana Raju: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 54 given on 23rd August 1927 regarding the difficulties at present experienced in the execution of the decrees of village panchayat courts—

(a) whether the reports of the Collectors have been received;

(b) if so, what those reports are; and

(c) what action Government have taken thereon?

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A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Copies* of their reports and the Board's Resolution on those reports are placed on the table of the House.

(*c*) The Government have made the following amendment to the rules framed under section 78 of the Madras Village Courts Act, 1888, as amended by Madras Act II of 1920:—

'53-*A*. The president of a panchayat court may leave property attached in execution of a decree of the panchayat court by actual seizure under section 53 in the custody of the village headman, if such property can neither be left in the custody of the judgment-debtor under the said section nor sold under the proviso to section 58.'

This amendment has been published in Law (General) Notification No. 717, dated the 14th October 1927, at page 1687 of Part I of the *Fort St George Gazette*, dated the 18th October 1927.

Education

Alleged inadequate grants to Indian orphanages.

*1388 *Q.*—Mr. C. Gopala Menon: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he received any representations during his last tour in the West Coast about the inadequate grants given to Indian orphanages;

(*b*) whether he is aware that the Commissioner of Labour gives to Adi-Dravida boarding houses, boarding grants at the rate of Rs. 6 to Rs 8 per boarder;

(*c*) whether he is aware that very few orphanages are being conducted by indigenous institutions in the Presidency; and

(*d*) whether the Government have decided to increase the rate of grants and place the Indian orphanages on the same footing as other boarding houses in regard to conditions governing the distribution of grants?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The grant given by the Commissioner of Labour varies from Rs. 3-8-0 to Rs. 15 a month per boarder.

(*c*) The majority of orphanages are maintained by Mission bodies.

(*d*) A proposal to provide increased provision for boarding grants to Indian orphanages in the budget estimate for 1929-30 was placed before the Finance Committee but was not recommended by it. The question is however under consideration.

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan:—"With reference to the answer to (*b*) regarding the grants given by the Commissioner of Labour, may I know on what basis the persons receive the grants?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan:—"This is a matter for the hon. the Home Member."

*The hon. the President:—"I should like to have this question settled. If there is room for disagreement, there should be an order of His Excellency as to in whose portfolio it is included."

* Printed as Appendix XVII on pages 661-665 infra.